

Tools For Families Building Godly Legacies

So Dad, Mom, Why *Did* God Create Sex?

A biblical review of God's intent for sexuality For parents with inquisitive sons

Dr. John P. Splinter

When I was a kid, my dad was a Baptist pastor. This means I grew up as sheltered as my parents could figure out how to do. It also means we never used the "S" word, ever. Not the <u>four</u>-letter s-word ~ I'm talking about the <u>three</u>-letter s-word. In my dad's mind, s-e-x was something I was supposed to know *nothing* about and stay as *far away* from as possible.

Right.

If you're a man, then you will understand as I tell you that being a normal male with hot red blood and adolescent surges of testosterone coursing through my veins, I was super-curious about anything that wore a bra. If our next door neighbor had strapped a bra on her black lab retriever, I'd have wanted to peek. And once in a while, when the wind was right and the stars properly aligned, some girl's blouse would buckle out where it was supposed to lay flat, and I'd get a free peek of what "adolescent heaven" was like. I almost passed out a few times.

My dad was killed in an airplane crash when I was 13, so even though we never used the "S" word, I'd now lost my one potential ally in that early quest for knowledge about girls. From that point forward I was on my own ~ which is a dangerous thing for a 13-year-old who's starting to awaken with an internal neurochemical force akin to Hitler returning from the grave.

By the time I was a freshman in high school things were hopeless. They say the average adolescent boy thinks about sex every 15 seconds. I was wondering what the rest of the guys were thinking about the other 12 seconds.

Now as an adult I've concluded that the only way any woman could come close to understanding the phenomenon of adolescent male testosterone flooding, would be to become addicted to cocaine. She might then gain some small insight into what it's like being an adolescent boy. Every girl in my class fed my habit ~ helloooo Judy ~ woah, Ricki's lookin' good today ~ ohmy-gosh, Sandy!! In *their* minds they were just girls trying to look cute. In *my* mind they were mythic temptresses, Sirens from hell unintentionally dragging my soul into the darkness of sexual insanity.

If you're old enough you might remember the song sung by "Melanie." The words to the chorus sounded so innocent, but most of us knew what she was saying.

"Well, I got a brand new pair of roller skates
You got a brand new key
I think that we should get together and try them out you see
I been looking around awhile
You got something for me
Oh! I got a brand new pair of roller skates
You got a brand new key"

Years later I would discover this was every young man's battle – but at that moment I was alone, ungoverned, and out of control. Nobody knew it, but I was Jack the Ripper cleverly disguised as a high school freshman. Sometimes when in the presence of a cute girl I wanted to scream, "Run for your life ~ I'm about to lose control!!"

During those early adolescent years, probably more than anything I can think of today, I wanted to talk about sex ~ with someone ~ anyone!! Even the neighbor's black lab would have filled the need, if she could have only talked. I wanted to know, Why do I get so turned on all the time? Is there anything wrong with sneaking a peek? Will this sexual torture ever subside? Is it normal to have orgasms when sleeping? What about if I'm awake...? What *is* normal? Am I an oversexed weirdo? Will I go to hell for thinking so much about girls bodies? Does it get any better when you're married? Is this what hell's like?

Today I'm a dad and a grandpa, and I want to talk to you who are parents, because your sons (OK, and also your daughters) are just as sexually alive and aware as you ever were – *and possibly far more so due to Internet pornography and its influences*. In today's world, your children and grandchildren have easy access to stuff that most of us only dreamed of seeing ~ pictures that would have made the normal male adolescent sexual madness exponentially more powerful. And recent brain research has confirmed what we all knew intuitively – sex *is* neurochemically powerful – *enormously* powerful.

So for starters— you absolutely must talk with your kids about sex ~ a lot ~ openly ~ and you must give honest answers. Fortunately, your Father in Heaven has provided a great deal of wisdom, so you're not alone in this conversation. Here are some thoughts about what to say when trying to make sense to your kids, regarding why God created sex.

God created two sexes, male & female.

It was God's idea in the first place. Sex isn't something that adolescents somehow discovered under the back seat of the car while looking for a nickel among the bubble-gum wrappers and broken Graham crackers ~ or while browsing a dictionary and stumbling across juicy sexual words. God did it! The Bible says, God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them (Gen. 1:27). Then it goes on to say, God saw all that he had made, and it was very good (Gen. 1:31). This is to say, God thinks sex is good. Here's how it sounds from a parent.

Hypothetical father-son conversation:

Son, God created your sexuality, and He thinks it's good – as in really good.

He knows how your penis stands up – He created it that way.

He knows that girls' boobs make it stand up. He created it that way.

And He knows that the more boob they show, the more it makes you crazy.

He knows that you have orgasms – that's how He made your body to work.

And he said it was "very good."

Your sex drive is normal, son. It may be crazy and overpowering ~ but it's normal. Cool. huh?

Hypothetical mother-daughter conversation:

Girl, God created your sexuality, and He thinks it's good – as in really good.

He knows how you feel drawn to certain boys.

He knows how your vagina gets damp when a boy hugs or kisses you.

He knows how your body turns boys on, just because you're a girl.

He knows all that because He created you.

And He said it was "very good."

Your sex drive is normal. It may feel crazy and overpowering ~ but it's normal.

Cool. huh?

OK, so maybe you don't talk like that. But however you do talk, *that's* the conversation you need to have with your kids ~ because if they are older than 11 or 12, they're very possibly having that level of conversation with their peers, without the God part. And if some of their peers have become sexually active already (as many 11 and 12-year-olds are these days), they may already even be talking openly about things like masturbation, oral and anal sex. So the first message is, "God created sex. He knows all about it. And He thinks it's very good."

God linked sex to marriage.

The next part of the story of sex is that God linked it to marriage. Adam and Eve didn't have a church or a pastor to marry them. Actually, God joined them together as husband and wife. The name "Adam" is taken from the Hebrew word for "earth." This is consistent with the biblical statement that God made Adam from the dust of the earth. That word is "adomah." The name, "Eve" comes from the Hebrew word for "life."

Everything that speaks to marriage in the book of Genesis, implies that marriage was for one man, one woman, for a lifetime. Scripture says, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh (Gen. 2:24). And since Adam lived to be 960 years of age, that's a very long marriage. Incidentally, the notion of divorce isn't mentioned in scripture until Deuteronomy chapter 24:1-4, literally thousands of years after the creation of Adam and Eve. So God's intent for man and woman was to marry, with one man and one woman being united in marriage until one of them died.

The biblical story continues: *The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame*" (*Gen 2:24-25*). Can you imagine Adam and Eve seeing one another naked for the first time after

God created woman? Can you see Adam looking her over, and over, and then saying, "Woah....! Eve, how nice to, er, *see* you." Apparently, Adam and Eve didn't get tired of their sexual relationship because according to Jewish tradition they had 56 kids.

And according to scripture, there is no shame in the sexual relationship in marriage. Nobody needs to feel embarrassed as they show their body to their spouse – because now each other's body belongs to each other. There's no sense of regret for having had marital sex, because within marriage you're *supposed* to have sex. You're *supposed* to look at each other's naked bodies, and touch them, and enjoy them ~ it's the "right thing to do" ~ according to God.

Hypothetical parent/child conversation:

Sex and marriage are really cool. Mom and I enjoy it a lot (OK, don't ask...). It's not something we feel ashamed about, or guilty for enjoying. It's really fun. And God wants you to have sexual fun with your wife too. It's His plan.

Sex is supposed to be a real "turn on."

In the Song of Solomon, the Bible actually gets a little frisky. The writer is assumed to be Solomon, King of Israel. In part of this text, Solomon is looking at the naked body of his bride. Notice the one body part that he mentions three times in the following text:

How beautiful your sandaled feet, O prince's daughter!

Your graceful **legs** are like jewels, the work of a craftsman's hands.

Your navel is a rounded goblet that never lacks blended wine.

Your waist is a mound of wheat encircled by lilies.

Your **breasts** are like two fawns, twins of a gazelle.

Your **neck** is like an ivory tower.

Your **eyes** are the pools of Heshbon by the gate of Bath Rabbim.

Your **nose** is like the tower of Lebanon looking toward Damascus.

Your head crowns you like Mount Carmel.

Your **hair** is like royal tapestry; the king is held captive by its tresses.

How beautiful you are and how pleasing, O love, with your delights!

Your **stature** is like that of the palm, and your **breasts** like clusters of fruit.

I said, "I will climb the palm tree; I will take hold of its fruit."

May your **breasts** be like the clusters of the vine,

The fragrance of your **breath** like apples, and your **mouth** like the best wine. Song of Solomon 7:1-9

Not one other part of her body is mentioned even twice, but her breasts are singled out three times. *How male is this!*

Later, as Solomon wrote the Proverbs, he returned to the theme of wives and their breasts. He wrote, "As a loving hind and a graceful doe, let her breasts satisfy you at all times; be exhilarated always with her love" (Prov 5:19 – NASV). We might not use the same poetic form

that Solomon used, speaking of "loving hinds" and "graceful does," but we all get the idea as he speaks of her breasts.

We also see the more feminine sexual approach in the Song of Solomon. Essentially the woman's approach is similar to saying, "Honey, let's take a ride in the country, find some nice place where we can be alone and have a picnic, and then make love." The "mandrakes" referred to in this text were a plant considered to be an aphrodisiac (to arouse and enhance sexual response), so this chick wasn't being totally coy and evasive:

Let us go early to the vineyards to see if the vines have budded, if their blossoms have opened, and if the pomegranates are in bloom ~ there I will give you my love. The mandrakes send out their fragrance, and at our door is every delicacy, both new and old, that I have stored up for you, my lover. Song 7:12-13

Yes, God knew when He created woman, that man would find her attractive. And God knew that woman would find man attractive, and God created a different but equally spell-binding sexual drive in women. Is that a strong enough word, "attractive?" Perhaps we should expand on the thought – alluring, captivating, a real turn-on ~ hot! And God intended sex to be that way, within marriage.

Hypothetical father/son conversation:

Jimmy, when you look at a girl's figure and notice her boobs, and then you start getting turned on, it's exactly what King Solomon experienced when he looked at his wife's body. It's normal to get amazingly turned on. And that is precisely why as a young man, you need to govern your sexuality. It is **so** strong that it'll make you say and do stupid things. But it's all very normal. I experienced the same feelings when I was your age.

Hypothetical mother/daughter conversation:

Jenny, when you look at a boy and notice his strong legs and shoulders, and think about how cute he is, and you find yourself wishing to be in his arms, perhaps thinking about how you might turn him on, it's exactly what King Solomon's wife experienced when she looked at him. It's normal to want to be held and caressed. It's normal to wear clothes that you believe make you cute and attractive, so that boys may notice you. And that is exactly why as a young lady you need to govern your sexuality

Sex is a great way to make kids.

It is said that humans are the only species that face one another when they make love. The extensive tenderness, caressing, and other features of human love-making, makes human sex to be easily the most varied, creative, and delight-filled sexual experience in the known universe.

However, sex was intended to be more than just sex. In the Bible when it speaks of Adam making love to Eve, the verb "to know" is used. It says, literally, "Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain" (Gen. 4:1 ~ KJV). Later it says that Cain knew his wife,

and she conceived (Gen. 4:17 ~ KJV). The way God intended sex in humans, involves a deep, intimate, cherished personal sharing of oneself – a form of bonding and private knowledge – not just <u>doing</u> sexual activity. Dogs and cats "<u>do</u> sex." Kids in junior high or high school "<u>do</u> sex." But married adult humans were created to have a far richer experience. Even the word most commonly used, "intercourse," denotes communication between two people.

The art of lovemaking is such a profound statement of human bonding that King Solomon made this statement as he thought about it:

There are three things which are too wonderful for me, Four which I do not understand:
The way of an eagle in the sky,
The way of a serpent on a rock,
The way of a ship in the middle of the sea,
And the way of a man with a maid.
(Prov 30:18-19 – NASV).

Couples who have been married for 50 years, still find new meaning and relational renewal within love-making. It is then via this deep and intimate knowledge of and sharing with one another, that children come into the marriage. And this is significant in that human children have the longest learning curve of all created beings. They live with their parents in their home longer than any other species, which in turn is why loving and lasting marriage is important. It all fits together like a cosmic jigsaw puzzle.

So sex as God created it to be, is something to celebrate! It's a wonderful, exciting, invigorating, bonding, loving, caring, expressive, communicative experience shared by two people who are committed to one another for a lifetime, and desire each other's highest and best. Phew!

Hypothetical parent/child conversation:

You'll always remember the first time you romantically kiss. You'll always remember the first time you make love. You'll never forget what you see, when you first see your spouse naked. This stuff is so powerful, it gets burned into your brain like nothing else. And pregnancy happens, you'll be amazed that it would happen as a result of this magnificent love-making experience that God created. There's nothing in the world like it. It's totally awesome.

Only marriage can contain the power of sex.

OK, let's do a little test. What did you have for breakfast three weeks ago Monday? Can't remember? OK, try another one ~ what did you wear seventeen weeks ago Wednesday? Really, you can't remember that? That's all right ~ most people can't. But here are two things you'll never forget: Your first romantic kiss, and the first time you make love. You'll remember details of those events for decades – most likely all your life.

So a wise person is very careful about what they store in their brains, especially in regard to sexual activity. Research has found that between 66 and 75 percent of people who were sexually active during adolescence, later deeply regret their decision and wish they could erase the memories from their brains. The problem is, they can't. God gave us memory so that we wouldn't put our hands on the same hot stove, twice. But memory can also be a sadness if what we're trying to forget is tattooed into our memory. That's what sex is like – it's like tattooing memories into the brain.

Powerful in the brain

Sex is powerful in a way that almost nothing else is. We're not going to go into brain chemistry here, but the neurochemistry of sex has been found to be as powerful as that of cocaine or heroin. Of the three addictions, cocaine, heroin, or sex, the latter is seen by many professionals as being the most difficult to break. Sexual memories are burned into the brain in a manner that few other experiences of life are. And this is just as true of pornography use as it is of sexual intercourse.

Allow me to use myself as a research subject for a moment. As I write this I am 63 years old – I was born just after air was invented. I saw my first pornographic picture when I was 14. The event happened at a Baptist church "Boys Brigade" event, when a peer brought a magazine he'd found somewhere, advertising nudist colonies. Naturally, there were a lot of naked people in the magazine. Until I die I will remember one of the pictures. It was of a girl a couple years older than I, playing volleyball in the buff, with a bunch of older naked people. She looked very much like a girl in my school. If I were an artist, I could still recreate that picture with startling accuracy, because it's burned into my brain and if it hasn't gone away in the last 50 years, it's safe to say it's not ever going away.

This morning I had breakfast with a man who's a few years younger than I. He recounted the same dynamic, saying he could pull up clear memories of Playboy pictures he'd seen when he was a kid. This is a common experience in men *and* women. It's how God wired our brains. He created our cerebral hardware in a manner that sex is a *super-powerful* dynamic. Then, in His Word, He warned us about its power. Here are a few excerpts that demonstrate the gentle coaching of a loving Father:

- "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life" (Prov. 4:23 NIV).
- "Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. A loving doe, a graceful deer may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love" (Prov 5:16-19 ~ NIV).
- "What comes out of a man is what makes him 'unclean.' For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality..., adultery..., lewdness...." (Mark 7:20-22 ~ NIV)
- "...Everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart" (Mt. 5:28 ~ NASV). (The same thought applies to women looking lustfully at men.)

Hypothetical parent/child conversation:

Human nakedness is such a powerful thing that when you view it, it remains in your brain like nothing else in the world. So if you are wise, as you mature from childhood into manhood, you will be extremely careful about what you let your eyes see. If you let sexual pictures and experiences into your brain, I can promise you, you will live to wish you had never let them in. It's your life, my child, but this is your dad/mom giving you the best advice I can in regard to this very powerful subject.

Powerful biblical examples

There are many biblical examples of men who let sex gain the upper hand in their lives, and paid dearly for it. One of these is Samson, whose story is found in Judges 13:24 through 16:31. You should read that story with your kids, and talk about it as you read it. Although he had been a Judge in Israel, and although God had made him arguably the physically strongest man to ever live, Samson was ruined by the power of sex. He just couldn't stay away from foreign women. He died, blinded and imprisoned ~ which, when you think of it is an interesting metaphor for a person hooked on sex.

In another biblical example, King David was almost certainly sexually addicted and it cost him more than he could have ever imagined. Although he had seven wives plus a bevy of concubines, he became a voyeur stalking the lovely Bathsheba. In the end, his fling with her led him to murder her husband, Uriah. Interestingly, Uriah had been one of David's vaunted "Thirty Mighty Men," so he threw one of his most important friends under the bus, because of sex.

David's sexual misbehavior leaked into his family, as his eldest son Amnon raped his daughter, Tamar. This crisis escalated as another of his sons, Absolom murdered Amnon and then attempted a coup d'état. His top general, Joab disrespected David to the point that he murdered David's son Absolom. David's army turned against him, probably due to the influence of two other of his "Mighty Men" who were in his army. One of these two named Eliam, was Bathsheba's daddy ~ who undoubtedly knew the whole sordid story. The second was named Ahithophel, and was David's most trusted advisor ~ he was also Bathsheba's grandpa. So sex cost David a lot.

Powerful in adults

Here's the thing to remember. Sex is powerful. It makes mature, grown men and women act like complete idiots. It leads people to do things they'd never have imagined they'd do in their worst nightmares. It breaks up families and wrecks the lives of kids. It makes people feel like they are "attached" when all they are is promiscuous and jacked up on hormones. Every week in every major city, people lose their jobs due to "office romances" that blow up in their faces. Every day in every major city, men lose their jobs due to looking at pornography on company computers during working hours. Sex has the power to make complete blithering idiots of adults. It's that powerful.

The story-line is frequently seen in literature. In one world-class novel, Russian author Leo Tolsoy wrote a book, *Anna Korenina*, about a drop-dead gorgeous Russian woman of high society, who although married and a mother, had a fling and a baby with a Russian military officer. In the end, Anna commits suicide. The sadness in retrospect was the story that never happened ~ the story of a life that *could have been*, but for her sexual promiscuity. That's very much the bottom line of all forms of disobedience to God: The sadness of what could have been. Sex is profoundly powerful in the brain. Wise people develop habits of keeping their minds pure and clean.

Powerful in family systems

Contrary to popular belief, it is *not* a one-person activity when someone has an affair or gets hooked on porn. Rather, it rapidly becomes an entire family system *plus* multi-generational problem in family systems. King David's story is a case in point. His entire family paid a huge price for his sexual failures: A raped daughter; one son murdering another; a second son murdered by David's top general; a murdered friend (Uriah); the suicide of a trusted advisor (Ahithophel). And the King of Israel who followed David, was his son, Solomon. This young man was so hooked on sex that he had 700 wives *plus* 300 concubines ~ i.e., a different sexual partner every night for three years in a row before starting to repeat the cycle. Gosh, do you think Solomon might have had "sexual issues" that he learned through the family chaos which resulted from his father's sexual misbehavior with his mother, Bathsheba?

What else could possibly cause a man or a woman to leave their family, turn their back on their spouse, their children, their home, their church, their career, their reputation ... only sex. It's that powerful. Parents, you <u>simply must</u> teach your kids about the power of sex, because in today's culture sex is seen as a form of recreation. Treating sex as recreation doesn't make it less powerful. Sex never becomes powerless in human life. But using it for recreational purposes does make the user more blind.

Powerful in the psyche

Research by the Heritage Foundation has uncovered a startling fact. When kids become sexually active at grade school, junior-high high-school and college ages, they frequently experience depression. Then, when the relationship breaks up (as *all* do in that era of our lives), this depression frequently escalates to suicidality. Girls become *three* times more prone to attempting suicide ~ boys become *eight* times more likely.

So it was that a high school senior girl in my own neighborhood a few years ago, broke up with her boyfriend two days before high school graduation. The breakup was so painful to her, that she killed herself ~ two days before high school graduation. Gosh, do you think she may have been sexually active with her boyfriend? If she had not been, the sadness of the breakup would have been exponentially less powerful and she'd have undoubtedly have graduated from high school, gone on to college, and probably be married with kids today. She was to have been her high school class valedictorian.

A moment ago we cited King Solomon. Here's some lesser-known information about what he experienced later in his life. His enormous sexual extravagance was part of what led him to massive depression ~ to the point that he said, "Everything is meaningless!" He wrote, "I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure" (Eccl. 2:10). A fresh new pair of breasts every night – "hey, let's do it on the ceiling this time" – it's party time!

Later he wrote, "I declared that the dead, who had already died, are happier than the living, who are still alive" (Eccl. 4:2). It has been said that the best cure for hedonism, is its practice. This is undoubtedly why 66-75% of teens who have been sexually active and then reach age 24, look back and say they profoundly wish they'd never been involved sexually before marriage. Talk with any married person who has sexual memories of any kind other than those within their marriage, and 95% will tell you they earnestly wish they could blot out those memories.

Powerful in all forms

Having sexual intercourse with one's wife the first time is a powerful moment, especially if the couple has not been sexual before that moment. Indeed, it's a moment that will be remembered for a lifetime. But sex of any kind is powerful. Viewing pornography and then masturbating, is powerful enough to create lock-down addiction ~ and research is finding that it creates addiction *extremely* rapidly. A person may buy the services of a hooker for \$50, but the value of that moment will be impossible to remove from memory later in life ~ and it leads to the desire for more. Homosexuality is no less powerful than heterosexuality. One-night-stands of any kind can be just as powerful as year-long affairs. It all creates memories, and it all leads to a desire for more. You name the sexual practice, and it's powerful.

This is why the wise person always takes the high road by paying close attention to the wisdom of God. You virtually can't go wrong when being obedient to God. And you virtually can't go right when being disobedient to God. This isn't because God is a killjoy wanting to destroy all the fun. It's because this is how we're hard-wired ~ it's how God created us ~ it's how we work.

Leading to slavery

In our culture at this time, the word "addiction" has become widely used. Some people are addicted to drugs. Others to booze. Some to gambling. And with the advent of Internet pornography, we're seeing increasing percentages addicted to sex. People who are addicted to sex, cannot live without a regular "fix" of some kind. And as is the case with all forms of addiction, the addictive process leads addicts into ever deeper and darker practices.

A sex addict may start out merely looking at soft-core porn on the Internet and then masturbating. But that's just the beginning of addiction. The more addicted a person becomes, the worse their habits become as they stumble along into voyeurism, using prostitutes, viewing child porn, viewing sexual torture, perhaps participating in sado-masochism, and so on.

Pornography addiction is assumed by many to be a "male" problem, but it's not. In today's Internet world, research is finding that 50 - 70% of men, and as high as 35% of women, are becoming sexually addicted due to consumption of pornography. This is not a fun addiction.

It's demeaning, secretive, humiliating, and destructive to one's ability to enjoy close and non-sexually intimate relationships of all kinds.

The word used in scripture is a word with which American culture is familiar, and wishes it wasn't. The word is "slave." Let's look at scripture again, because it deals with the very heavy subject of mental and spiritual slavery. The Apostle Paul spoke of this kind of slavery. Here are a couple of his thoughts. "Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey-whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?" (Rom. 6:16-17) "Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness" (Rom. 6:19-20).

The Apostle Peter said it even more succinctly: "A man is a slave to whatever has mastered him" (2 Pet. 2:19). If a person can't stop viewing porn, they're hooked. They're a slave. If a person can't stop masturbating, they're hooked. This is the power of sex outside of marriage. Interestingly, sex inside of marriage generally leads to greater affection and depth of bonding with one's partner. By contrast, sex outside of marriage tends to lead to brokenness and slavery.

Parents, this is a discussion you need to have with your kids, because their world right now, sex is being touted as a form of personal recreation, for self gratification. This approach to sex leads to pain. Your kids need to hear this from your own lips. It should be part of the normal discussion you have with them in the natural flow of daily parent/child conversations.

Conclusion

All of the above is why the Bible says, "Honor God with your body" (1 Cor. 6:20). When we honor God with our bodies, we miss the 25-30 forms of Sexually Transmitted Infections that now exist ~ some of which are incurable ~ some of which will kill you ~ all of which may be transmitted genitally or orally. When we honor God with our bodies, we miss the attachment disorders that many face in adult years as they try to sustain a marriage that in the end, they can't.

Plus, in honoring God with their body, one incurs God's blessing. Scripture observes that God blesses those who are obedient to him. *Psalm 5:12* says, *For surely, O LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.* Oddly, this Psalm was written by one of the worst sexual scoundrels in scripture – our friend, King David. It was undoubtedly written before his costly fling with Bathsheba. This goes to show, Satan can cause anyone to stumble if they take their eyes off of God's will and purposes.

Sex is amazing. It is beautiful. It is enchanting. It is fun!! There's nothing like it in the world. It's also powerful. The only container that is able to handle it, is marriage. Outside of marriage it is ultimately destructive. Wise men and women (and kids) trust God's plan and are blessed by God when they are obedient. But gosh, is the world ever filled with idiots who don't! So what's your choice?

Dad, Mom, that's how to respond to your kids' question, "So why *did* God create sex?" Talk them through this study – read all of it together. And may God bless you and your kids as you do.